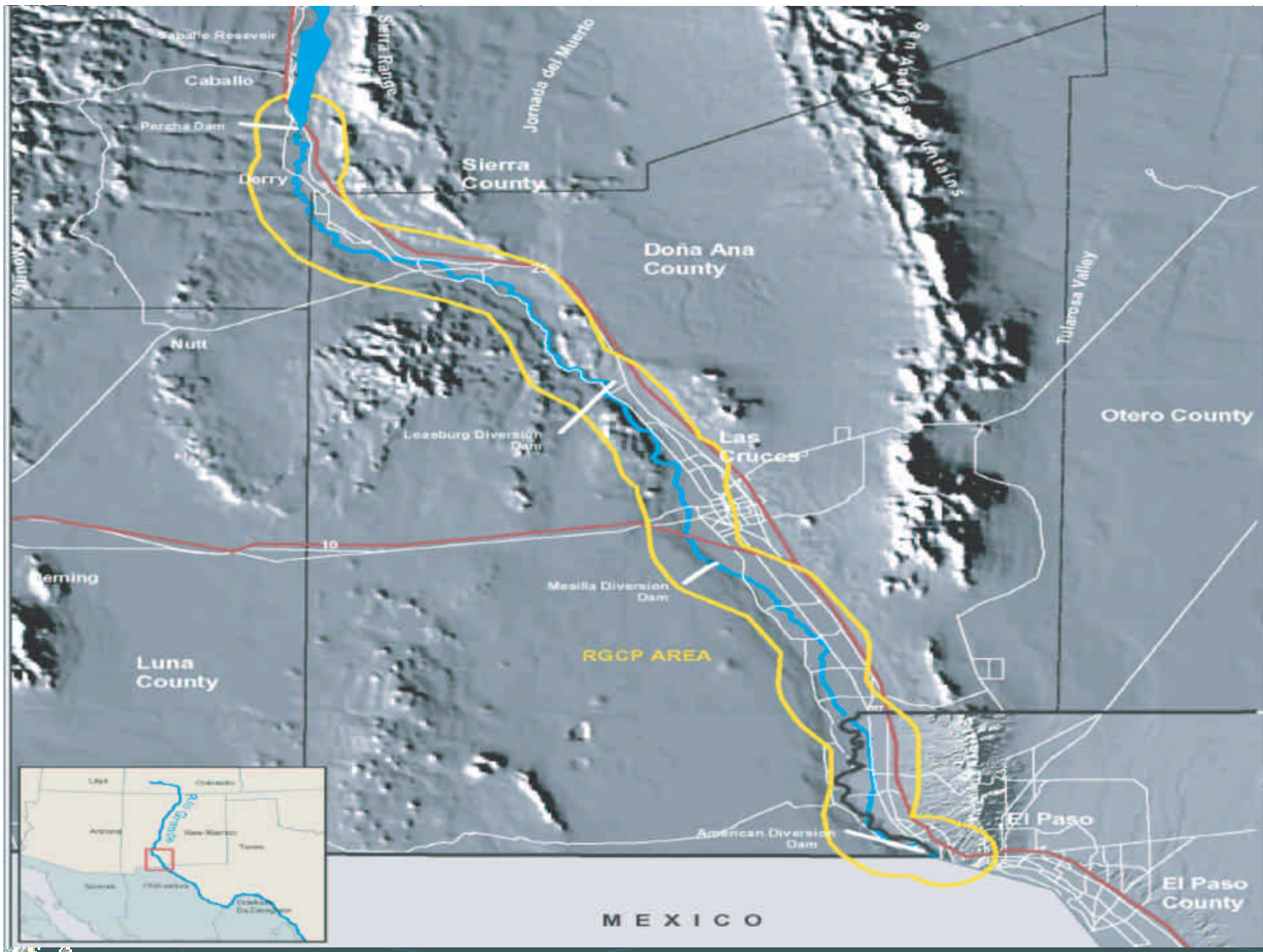




Rio Grande Canalization Project Brief

A vertical map of the Rio Grande runs along the left side of the slide. A white circle with an arrow points from the river to the speaker's name.

Daniel Borunda
United States Section,
International Boundary and Water Commission





History of Current EIS

- 1977 Environmental Assessment for annual O&M activities
- 1991 USACE Corps Regulatory requirements
- 1994 channel maintenance 404 Permit issued with stipulations (wetland and riffle zone creation, tree planting etc)
- 1998 USIBWC receives notice of NEPA and ESA violations
- 1999 USIBWC issues NOI for River Management Alternatives EIS



History of Current EIS cont'd

- 1999 –2001 Public Scoping and Consultation period for Alternatives Development
- 2001 Alternatives Formulation Report issued
- 2003 Reformulation of River Management Alternatives Report issued
- December 2003 Draft EIS released for public comment
- July 2004 Final EIS issued
- August 2004 Record of Decision expected
- Governor Richardson, Senators Bingamon and Domenici, and stakeholders request delay in signing the ROD



EIS Alternatives

- Canalization Project EIS evaluated long-term River Management Alternatives:
 - No Action
 - Flood Control Improvement
 - Integrated Land Management
 - Targeted River Restoration
- Goal to accomplish flood control, water delivery, and operation and maintenance activities in a manner that would enhance or restore the riparian ecosystem

Management Category	No Action Alternative	Flood Control Improvement Alternative	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE Integrated USIBWC Land Management	Targetted River Restoration Alternative
Levee System Management	Routine levee and road maintenance	No Change	No Change	No Change
	N/A	Levee System Improvements	Levee System Improvements	Levee System Improvements
Floodway Management	Unmodified grazing leases	Modified leases for erosion control (3,552 ac)	Modified leases for erosion control (3,552 ac)	Modified leases for erosion control (3,493 ac)
	Continue Seasonal mowing (4,657 ac)	No Change	Continued mowing (2,674 ac)	Continued mowing (2,223 ac)
			Modified grassland management (1,641 ac)	Modified grassland management (1,641 ac)
			Native vegetation planting (223 ac)	Native vegetation planting (189 ac)
			Stream bank Reconfiguration (127 ac)	Seasonal peak flows / bank preparation (516 ac)
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Voluntary conservation easements (1,618 ac)
Channel and Irrigation Facilities Management	Debris removal and channel protection	No Change	No Change	No Change
	American Dam and irrigation structures maintenance	No Change	No Change	No Change
	N/A	N/A	N/A	Reopening of six former meanders (147 ac)
Sediment Management	NRCS sediment dam maintenance	No Change	No Change	No Change
	Sediment removal from arroyos / mitigation actions	No Change	No Change	Modified arroyo Dredging for aquatic habitat (12 arroyos)
	Disposal from dredging channel within ROW*	Disposal mainly outside ROW*	Disposal mainly outside ROW*	Disposal mainly outside ROW*
	N/A	N/A	Disposal from environmental measure excavation inside ROW*	Disposal from environmental measure excavation inside ROW*



Final EIS Preferred Alternative

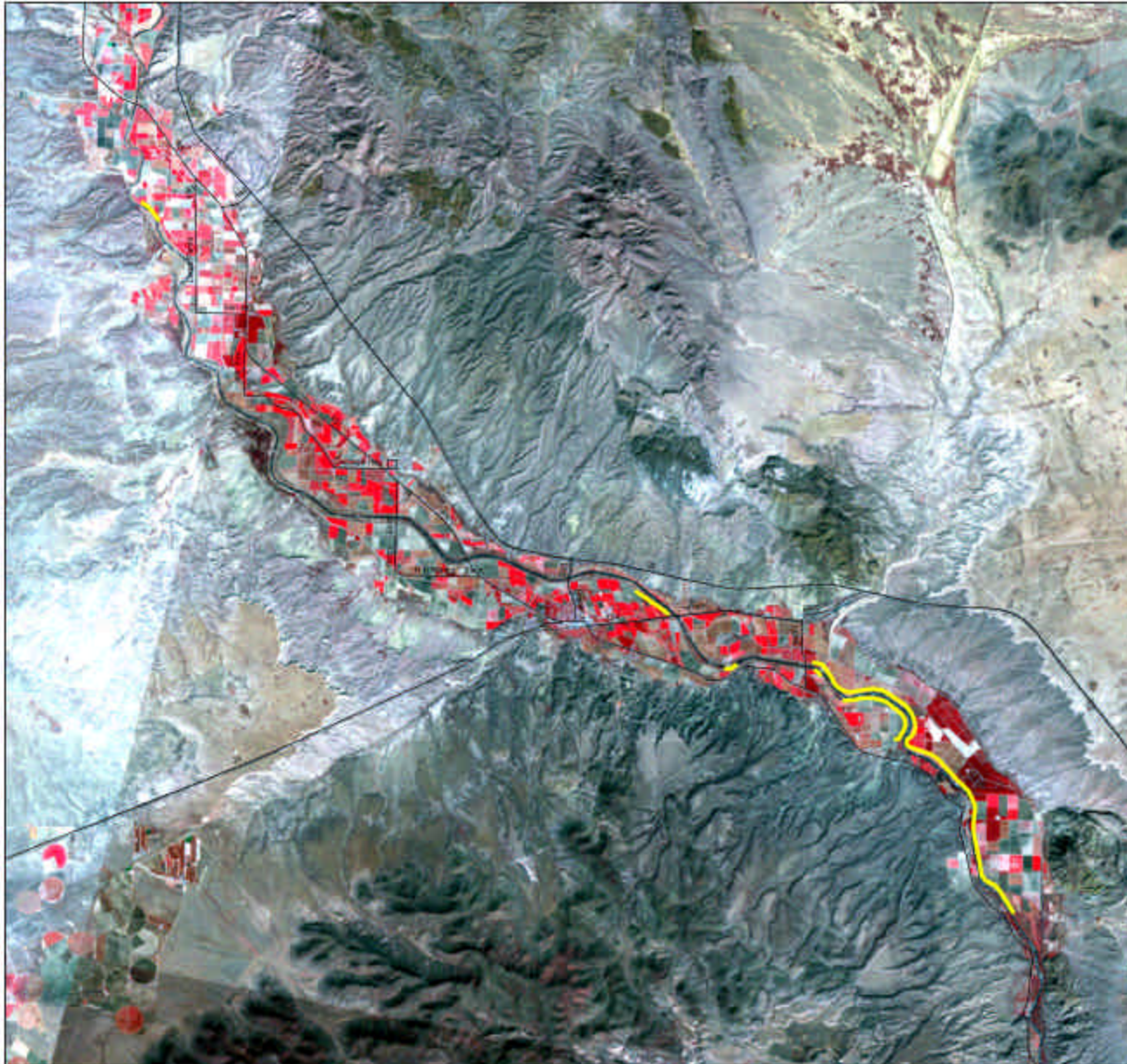
- Current O&M activities for flood protection and water delivery
- Current channel maintenance and flood control improvements
- Modify grazing lease program to improve erosion control
- Partial changes in floodplain maintenance
 - Environmental measures within USIBWC ROW
 - Develop riparian corridor for bank stabilization
 - Streambank reconfiguration for over bank flows



Status

- 1996 USACE HEC-2 model used by USIBWC as guideline for Flood Elevations
 - Raise ~ 60.1 miles of levees 2 ft. average
 - ~2.8 mile floodwall in Canutillo
- At present FLO-2D has been adopted as the guideline
 - Raise ~ 51 miles of levees
 - Majority in the lower reach of project

Hatch/Tonuco Bridge Area



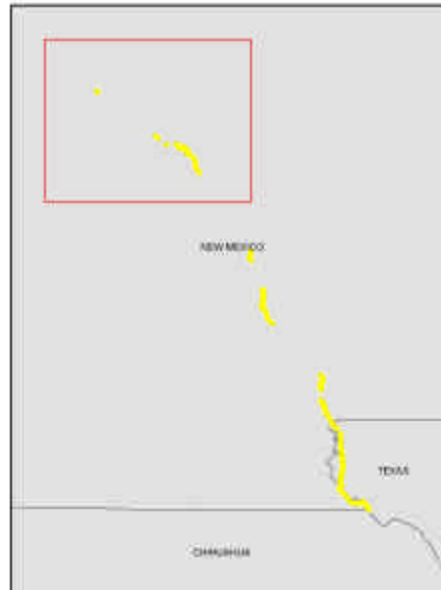
Levee Deficient Areas
FLO-2D Model 100-Year Flood

United States Section
International Boundary and Water Commission
December 12, 2006

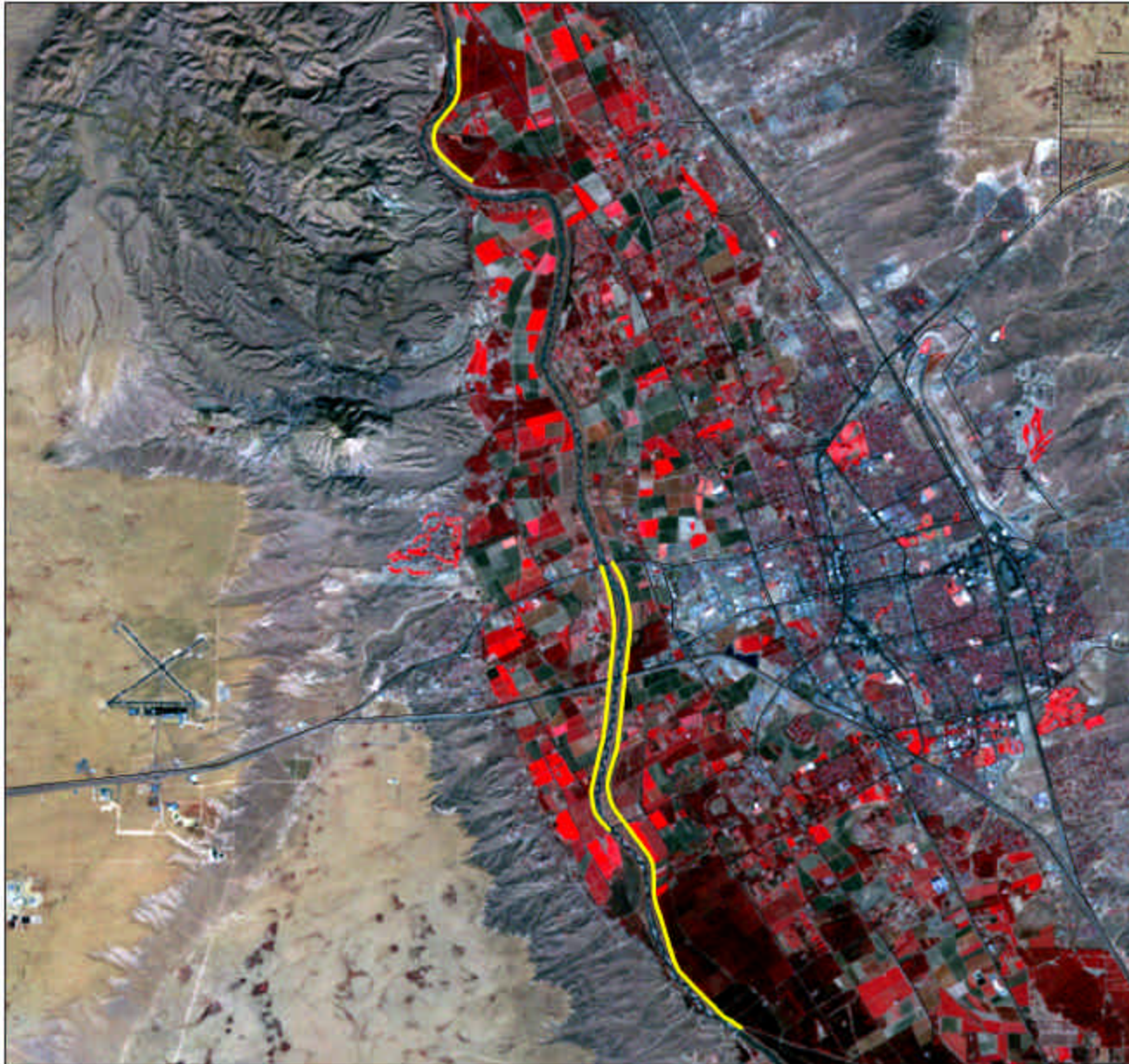
Levee Deficient Areas



0 12.5 25 50 Miles



Mesilla Area



Levee Deficient Areas
FLO-2D Model 100-Year Flood

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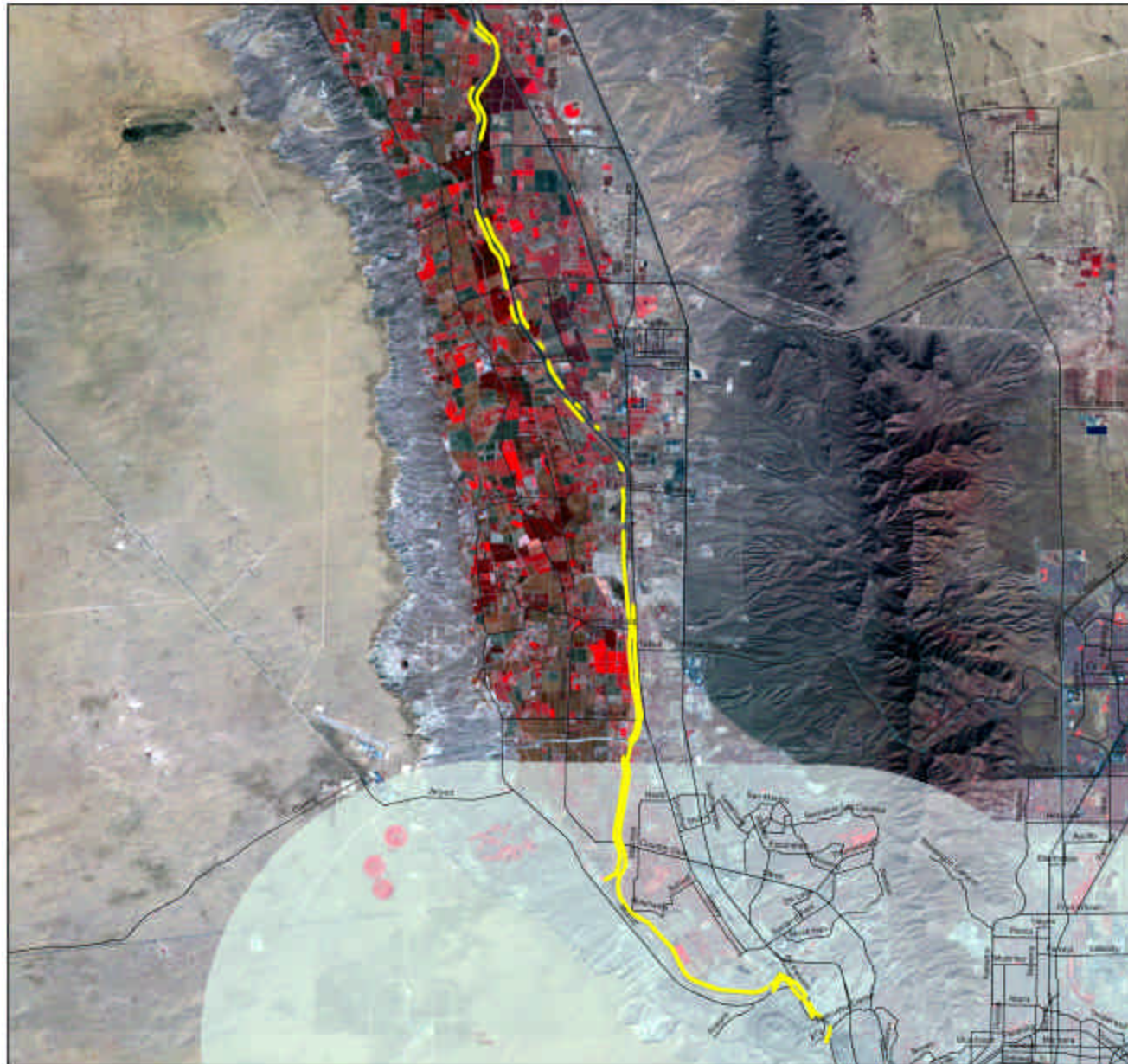
— Levee Deficient Areas



0 12.5 25 50 Miles



El Paso/Canutillo Area



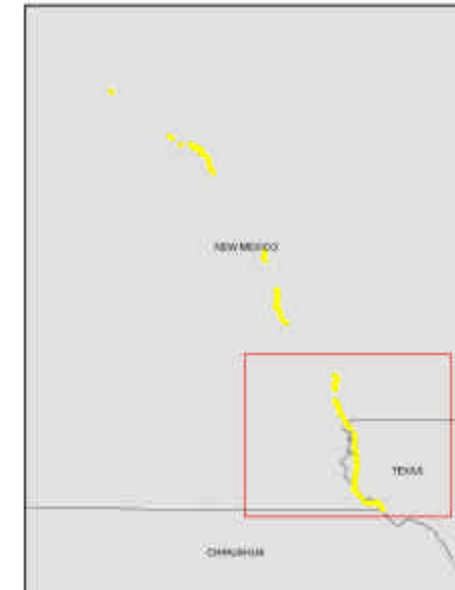
Levee Deficient Areas
FLO-2D Model 100-Year Flood

United States Section
International Boundary and Water Commission
December 12, 2006

— Levee Deficient Areas



0 12.5 25 50 Miles





Status

- April 2005 – Proposal from EBID/WWF (water rights framework and ESA safeguards)
- August 2005 – USACE completes FLO-2D model from Caballo to American Dam
- Fall 2005 – EBID/WWF Section 729 WRDA proposal to USACE (Hydrology & Hydraulics, flood protection, sediment transport, habitat restoration)

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a topographic map of a river valley, with yellow lines indicating the river and surrounding terrain. The rest of the slide has a dark teal background with light blue wavy lines.

Status Cont'd

- January 2006 – USIBWC agrees to fund the Section 729 proposal and cost share in the EBID water rights and ESA safeguards study
- July-August 2006 – MOU and workplan with USACE established
- August 2006 – MOU with EBID established



Next Steps

- Complete USACE Hydraulics & Hydrology Restoration Study
- Complete Water Rights Framework Study with EBID
- Expect Record of Decision before 2009 (Final EIS June 2004)

Questions?

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